

To the powers that be at the Federal Communications Commission,  
My name is Matthew Michels and I am a XM satellite radio subscriber. It has come to my attention that the NAB is attempting to suppress Satellite Radio from gaining a foothold in the "localized programming" market. It seems evident that the NAB would protest especially in light of their competition's patent focusing on "national" programming and an assumed hidden agenda in pursuing permanent licenses for its terrestrial repeater network.

In defense of Satellite Radio or any future technological advance, I would say nothing is further from the truth. As to the SDARS network, the logical assessment is the original intent of Satellite Radio was not to get its claws into local markets but rather to better service its growing customer base. As the future demand for local programming grew it only makes sense that Satellite Radio providers would seek the rights to provide such programming. And they should be allowed to.

As a customer of both XM and FM radio I urge the FCC to reject the NAB's petition 04-160 and open the doors of localized programming to XM radio and others who intend to meet the demands of the American public. I trust such a decision would be made considering the position the FCC has held with broadcast rules of late whether it be opening up L.P.F.M. or relaxation of broadcast outlet ownership rules. But as a concerned XM customer I feel the need to respectfully urge you to reject petition 04-160 and continue to further diversify all forms of communication to better service Americans.

Thank You,  
MATTHEW MICHELS